Canal from Sankosh River

3389. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for construction of a canal from Sankosh River to Ganges in West Bengal for regular augmentation of watr and better flow of water in Calcutta Port has been received by the Government for clearance;

(b) whether the Government are aware that Canal water will create the environmental problem;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the corrective measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The Detailed Project Report has been prepared by the Central Water Commission which envisages construction of dams across the river Sankosh for generation of power of 4060 MW. The regulated discharge is also proposed for irrigation and other purposes in Bihar and West Bengal territory through a gravity canal upto Teesta Barrage pond.

(b) to (d) Environment Impact Studies have been carried out by Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) and the final report is under examination by the Central Water Commission. Ministry of Environment and Forest would be approached for further examination before seeking investment clearance for the canal component which is in the Indian territory.

[Translation]

Proposal for River Bridges

3390. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals pertaining to construction of bridges over the rivers particulars in Uttar Pradesh which are under the consideration of the Government; and

(b) by when these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) As per Annual Plan 1996-97, the following two proposals, relating to bridges on National Highway network in U.P., are under consideration :

S.No.	Name	No. of National Highway
1.	Anoopshahar Branch Canal, Km. 77	NH-2
2.	Pili Nadi Km. 191	NH-56

Technical details of these proposals are under finalisation.

[English]

National Security Problem

3391. SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the long term comprehensive approach proposed to the National security problems in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : Government continually assess possible threats to national security and ensure the maintenance of adequate defence preparedness.

[Translation]

National Commission for Women

3392. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Women has emphasised the need of including women and children in the Ninth Five Year Plan as a policy matter and has urged the Government to formulate schemes for women and children to save the children from malnutrition and for child care;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the names of the schemes included or proposed to be included in the Ninth Five Year Plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Dredging Corporation of India

3393. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the present area of operation of the Dredging Corporation of India;

(b) the funds allocated for it by the Government year-wise since its incorporation;

(c) the number and type of dredgers in its possession;

(d) the number of dredgers in operation in different National Waterways; and

(e) the details of the proposals for making the National waterways No. 2 fully navigable, to be undertaken during Ninth Plan?